INFORMATION BULLETIN

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS DIVISION

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ALDRIN or DIELDRIN
FOR PRE-CONSTRUCTION TERMITE CONTROL

LISTED IN THE MINIMUM PROPERTY STANDARDS OF F. H. A.

Soil poisoning before and during construction is becoming more prevalent because of its adaptability to large-scale construction projects, such as public housing, industrial development, and subdivision development. Since several foundations or slabs are poured during the same working day, an experienced operator can easily treat many units under construction with little or no interference with construction personnel.

Pre-construction treatment with *aldrin* or *dieldrin* offers several important advantages:

1. Pre-construction soil poisoning is the only means of assuring a complete chemical barrier below and around the structure.

2. In areas of known termite infestation, aldrin or dieldrin protect the structure *before* the insects gain entry, thus eliminating the necessity of applying this protection later, and making structural alterations.

3. Thorough treatment of foundation trenches is easily accomplished. Crawl spaces and basements are exposed for thorough treatment before the concrete slab or floor is poured.

4. The application of aldrin or dieldrin is more convenient because all areas to be treated are exposed and ventilated. There is no need to dig special trenches.

5. It is often more economical to treat with aldrin or dieldrin than to use other means of termite protection.

Aldrin and dieldrin are suggested for use as soil poisons for termite prevention and control. The United States Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Federal Housing Administration, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Navy, many states and other agencies responsible for building construction and maintenance have recognized aldrin and dieldrin as effective soil poisons.

MIXING DIRECTIONS

To prepare the ready-to-use emulsion, dilute 1 gallon of aldrin concentrate (containing 2 pounds of technical aldrin per gallon) with 48 gallons of water or 1 gallon of aldrin concentrate (containing 4 pounds of technical aldrin per gallon) with 95 gallons of water. Dilute 1 gallon of dieldrin concentrate (containing 1½ lbs. technical dieldrin per gal.) with 60 gals. water. Dieldrin concentrate may also be diluted with No. 2 fuel oil. Apply according to the following directions.

A. NEW CONSTRUCTION — SLAB-ON-GROUND

1. Prior to pouring slab, apply *2 gallons of aldrin or dieldrin mixture per 5 linear feet* to *critical areas* only, such as along the inside of foundation walls, around sewer pipes, conduits, etc.

2. Apply *1 gallon per 5 linear feet* to the trench around the *outside* perimeter of slab, where trench is no deeper than 15 inches to top of footing. Apply another *1 gallon per 5 linear feet* as soil is being replaced in trench after slab is poured.

If top of footing is deeper than 15 inches to grade level due to slope of land, *double* the dosage applied to the trench and backfill.

3. Apply *1 gallon per 10 square feet* to the soil surface as an overall treatment prior to pouring slab. Apply to any area which may serve as a floor, attached porch, entrance platform, utility entrance, carport and similar situations where slab or fill is at grade level. In case of porous or absorbent fill, increase dosage to *1 gallon per 7 square feet.*

Note: Be sure grade stakes are removed before concrete sets.

B. NEW CONSTRUCTION—CRAWL-SPACE

1. After foundation is poured, but prior to replacement of outside foundation fill, apply *2 gallons of mixture per 5 linear feet* to *critical areas* only, such as along *inside* of foundation walls, around piers and utility entrances or holes left for insertion of pipes, conduits, etc.

2. Apply *1 gallon per 5 linear feet* to *outside* foundation trench, where trench is no deeper than 15 inches to top of footing. Apply *1 gallon per linear foot* to the backfill as this is being replaced.

If top of footing is more than 15 inches to grade level due to slope of the land, *double* the dosage applied to the trench and backfill.

3. Apply *1 gallon per 10 square feet* overall to soil surfaces in areas to be covered with slab or dirt and gravel fill, such as attached porches, entrance platforms, utility entrances, carports and similar situations where the slab or fill is to be at grade level. In case of porous or absorbent fill, increase dosage to *1 gallon per 7 square feet.*

C. NEW CONSTRUCTION—BASEMENT

1. Treat the same as outlined in "Crawl-Space Construction", except that because

footings are deeper, apply *2 gallons of mixture per 5 linear feet* around foundation and another *2 gallons per 5 linear feet* to the backfill.

2. The areas under and around window wells require treatment with about *2 gallons per 5 linear feet.*

D. VOIDS OF UNIT MASONRY WALLS AND PIERS

Treat all voids such as concrete block, brick veneer extending to footings, and block piers, with *1 gallon of mixture per 5 linear feet.*

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As with other methods of termite protection, all stumps, roots, fallen timber and other wood or wood products should be removed from foundation area before treatment. Expansion joints, joints around anchors, utility entrances, and other penetrations of concrete slabs should be sealed with coal tar pitch or other acceptable resilient, non-cellulose material.

SOME SUGGESTIONS

1. Use high *volume* equipment. A 1½ inch hose and a 20 gallon per minute centrifugal pump will hasten the application of the treatment. High *pressure* equipment is not generally desirable or practical for pre-construction treatment.

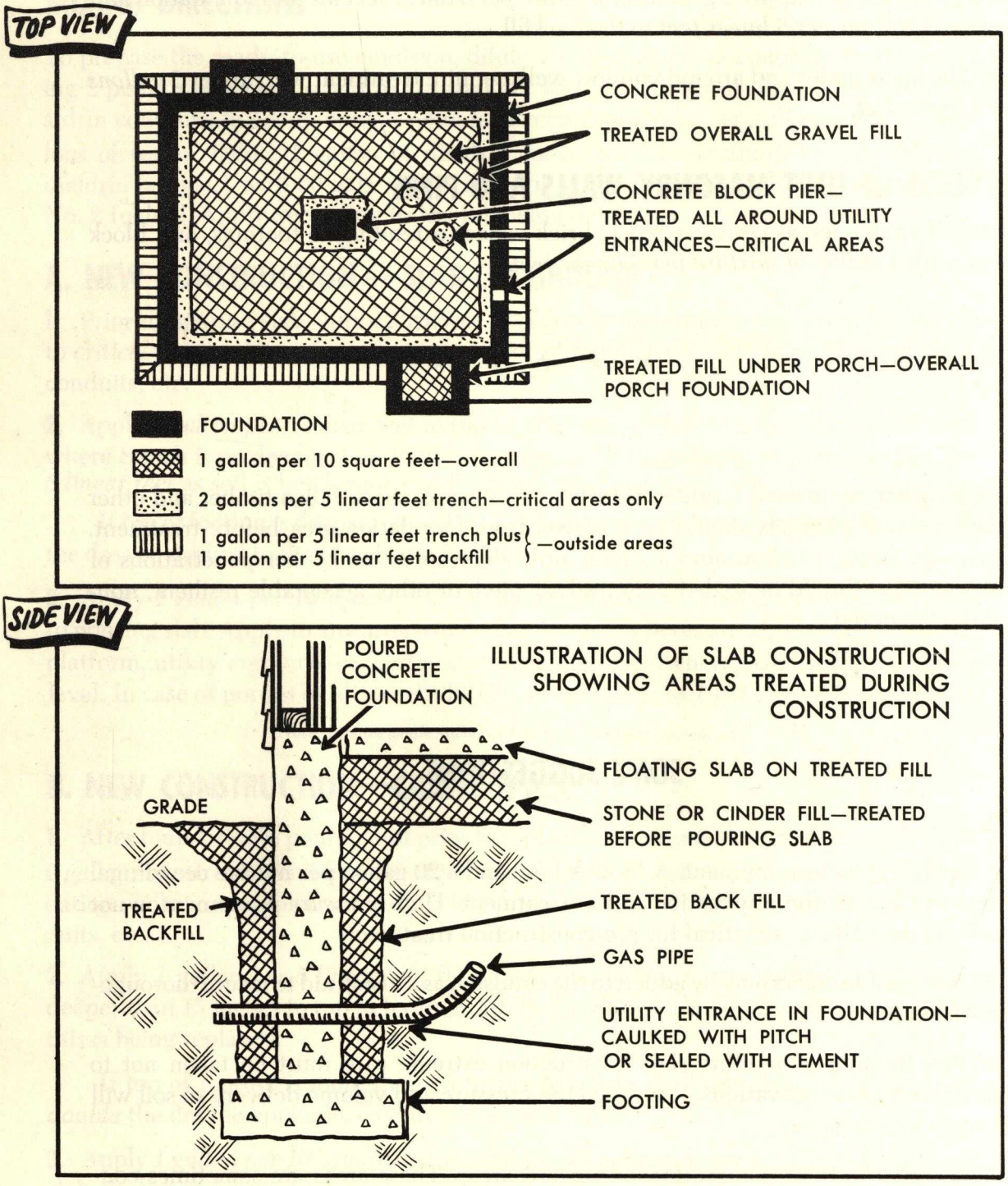
2. Water soluble colors may be added to the emulsion as a visual aid to insure thoroughness of treatment.

3. When treating monolithic slab construction extreme care must be taken not to disturb perimeter excavations. Cut down the pressure and volume delivery so soil will not wash into trenches.

4. Remember to treat under attached carport areas. These areas are sometimes converted to living areas and should be protected against future infestations.

5. To avoid surface flow of the chemical from the treated area, treatments should not be made when the soil or fill is excessively wet or immediately after heavy rains.

TYPICAL APPLICATION OF CHEMICAL TERMITE BARRIERS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION—SLAB-ON-GROUND TYPE



Aldrin and dieldrin are readily available. Ten years of experience have shown them to be powerful, alkali-stable termite poisons. Be sure of long-lasting control when you do a job with aldrin or dieldrin.

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